

VOL. XXXV.

HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1902.

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Above are only a few of the new books just received.

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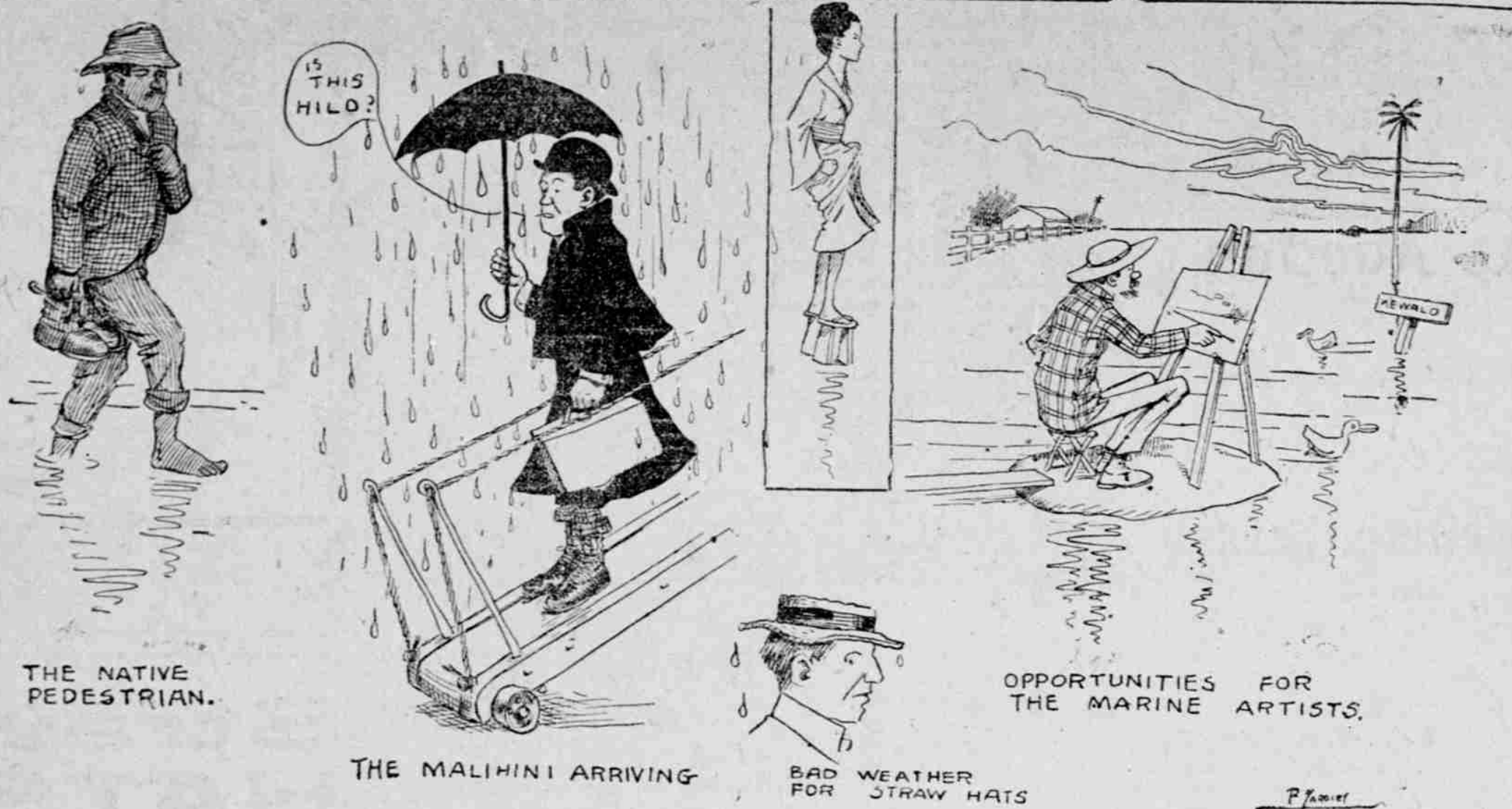
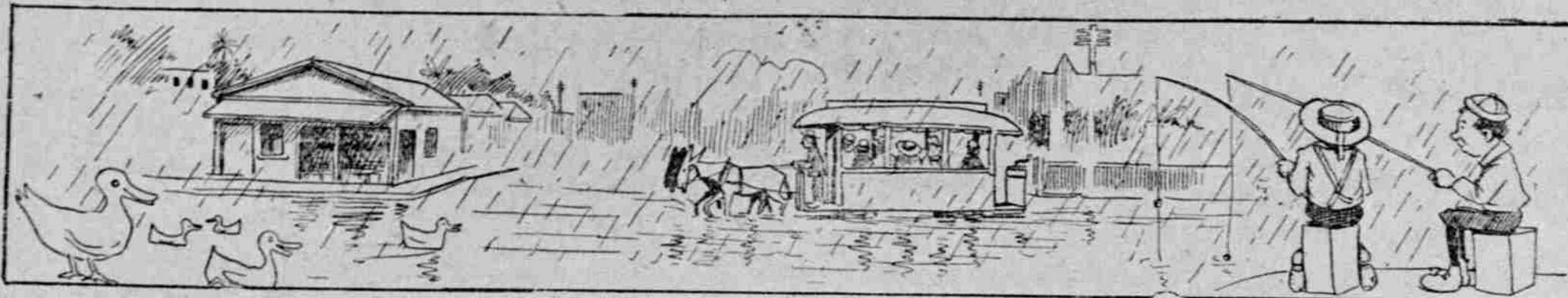
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OUT IN THE RAIN



THE NATIVE
PEDESTRIAN.

THE MALIHINI ARRIVING

BAD WEATHER
FOR STRAW HATS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR
THE MARINE ARTISTS.

Thunder, Lightning and Torrents Played Havoc With Electric Light, Rapid Transit and Telephone Companies.

The storm which started yesterday during the noon hour was general, every part of the city and suburbs being subjected to the heaviest rainfall of the year. The electric light and Rapid Transit companies were compelled to shut off power for nearly forty minutes and several hundred telephones were put temporarily out of use. The main cause of the trouble with wires was the electricity, which entered each system and traveled to the power houses and to the central offices of the telephone company, playing havoc in each. The lightning seemed to have got in at the vicinity of King and South streets, and it was believed for a time that the Langton house, opposite the Castle Home, had been struck. When the heaviest thunderclap came, accompanied by a blinding flash, the fuses in all the country phones and most of those in the city blew out, and at the same instant electric flashes filled the operators' room in the telephone exchange. There was a momentary consternation among the young lady operators. Two or three were badly scared, but most of them are used to trivialities of the kind and stood their ground. Many subscribers were treated to a surprise when electric fire leaped

from the telephones as the fuses blew out. The linemen were immediately called and by evening much of the damage had been repaired. When the lightning traveled to the electric power station, it came in contact with the rear part of the big marble switchboard. Several fuse blocks were destroyed and porcelain guards split, rendering circuits incapable of carrying power. There were several claps of thunder, the last two being the most severe. It was the last one which made the trouble. The transformer on the switchboard was blown out instantly. Chief Engineer Williamson and two assistants jumped to the levers on the board and remained there ready to throw them in case another clap came. Their position was perilous but happily was not attended with any serious results. The company recently discontinued the use of lightning arresters.

At the Rapid Transit power house a fuse block was blown out but doing little damage. The power, however, was instantly turned off and the system was at a standstill for about forty minutes. Lightning arresters are used on all the feed wires of the company and the system is practically immune from the effects of exterior electrical influence. The heavy torrents which came down every hillside street covered the tracks with gravel and silt and a large force of men was requisitioned to clear the way. In front of the power house all the tracks were buried under water, mud and gravel and the switch tongues became jammed. At the end of forty minutes one entire line was clear and the cars went on their runs as usual. A very bad place during the storm was at the corner of Beretania and Alapai streets, where both the tracks of the Rapid Transit and Trams were covered with nearly a foot of dirt. From Alapai to Punchbowl street, Beretania avenue became an almost impassable thoroughfare, and property on the lower side of the street was inundated. The water rose above the makai sidewalk level and poured into yards, filling many of them with water to a depth of two or three feet. Storekeepers were compelled to bank

their doorways with sand bags, rags and earth. Fort street was a rapid running stream. In many places there was a solid sheet of water from curb to curb. Hiloites looked on unconcernedly, occasionally inquiring of passers-by, "Have you ever seen it rain in Hilo?" The web-footed visitors from Hawaii's metropolis ventured the opinion that Honolulu needed a little shower now and then, and they hoped it wouldn't really rain. The building material and debris on the Fort street side of the Hall building diverted considerable water toward the cellar and a dam was hastily constructed to keep the flood in its course toward the waterfront. Despite the tremendous pressure exerted upon them, the storm sewers worked fairly well and carried off much of the flood, thereby preventing an accumulation on the waterfront. The street running along between the Naval docks and offices was transformed into a pond, hacks sinking down to the hubs. The same was the case on Kukui street, Ewa of the bridge, and walking was impossible except when a man removed his shoes and stockings and rolled his trousers above his knees. Pauoa stream was pretty full, although Nuuanu stream was comparatively from a freshet. Between 12 and 1 o'clock the Weather Bureau reported that 30 of an inch of rain had fallen. At Luakaha the fall for twenty-four hours ending at noon was 7.23 inches. The fall was reported exceptionally heavy in the vicinity of Diamond Head and all over Waikiki. The Kewalo street ditch again broke during the storm and overflowing, flooded the property around the Makiki fire station. The Lishman property on the makai side being filled with several feet of water. The water continued running over the broken gap until late in the afternoon, doing considerable damage to the streets and property. About 4 p. m. the weather began to clear up. The new flume in the Kewalo street ditch, just back of the Makiki Fire Station, was entirely washed away yesterday.

COMPETENT JUDGES.

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